1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

called *Stanovoy* ridge, we come to the river *Geek*, called by the Coſſacks *Vorovſkaya*, or Rogue's River, becauſe the *Kamtſchadales* who live upon it were frequently concerned in inſurrections, and uſed to kill the tax-gatherers treacherouſly. From hence we meet nothing worth notice 'till we come to a *Kamtſchatkoi* fort, called *Tackauta*, in which travellers uſually equip themſelves for paſſing the ridge. Here the common road lies near a rivulet, from the head of which it paſſes the *Stanovoy* ridge, 'till it deſcends to the heads of the river *Keergena*, which falls into the *Kamtſchatka*.

From the *Keergena* we paſs up the river *Kamtſchatka* to the *Kamtſchatkoi* fort. The country between the little fort *Tackauta* and the *Stanovoy* ridge is a deſert of 110 verſts in extent, and from the ridge to the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort is 65, the land equally barren.

The above road is very difficult and dangerous, for a great part of it lies on the river, which, from the rapidity of its current, in many places never freezes. Travellers are obliged, therefore, in ſome parts to keep cloſe to the ſides with great care; for if the ice breaks nothing can ſave them, the rocks on the banks in ſeveral places being ſo ſteep that it is impoſſible to get on ſhore, and the river runs ſo ſwiftly that you are immediately driven under the ice. The ridge is paſſable only in calm and fair weather, for which we are obliged to wait ſometimes ten days or more; at other times it is impoſſible to find the way, and we muſt inevitably fall down the precipices, and be loſt. The propereſt time to paſs is when no clouds are to be ſeen on the top of the ridge, for even the leaſt cloud is a ſign of a great ſtorm there. To croſs over this ridge takes up a whole winter's day. The greateſt danger is in paſſing over the very top, which is called by the Coſſacks, *Greben*, or a comb. Its breadth is 30 fathoms; it is like a boat with the bottom upwards, the aſcent on both ſides being very

l: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

133 very ſteep. The paſſage is troubleſome even in the calmeſt weather,
487 for the road falling off leaves nothing but ice: the *Kamtſchadales*,
481 therefore, in order to paſs it in ſafety, have under their ſnow-ſhoes, two nails; yet theſe are of ſmall ſervice if the wind overtakes them there, for they are frequently carried from one ſide to the other to the great hazard of their lives, or at leaſt of their limbs. Beſides which, this paſſage is attended with the danger of being ſmothered in the ſnow, the narrow path lying between high, and almoſt perpendicular, mountains, from which the ſnow falls in heaps upon the leaſt motion. This is a danger, indeed, unavoidable in every place where the road lies in narrow and deep vallies.

In mounting the ridge all muſt walk, for the dogs can hardly aſcend it even with the light baggage; but in deſcending it is otherwiſe, for then they only leave a ſingle dog in the ſledge: the reſt are taken out, it being impoſſible to manage them all in ſuch a road. Although this paſſage of the ridge be ſo difficult, yet, as it is the uſual road to *Kamtſchatka*, one may conclude that any other paſſage from ſea to ſea muſt be ſtill more difficult and dangerous.

133 The coaſt from the mouth of the Great River to the river *Puſtaia*, as far as the *Shaback*, is ooze and ſoft mud, ſo that many veſſels have been thrown upon it without receiving any hurt. From the *Shaback* the ſhore begins to be bolder, though not rocky; but from the *Tulaban* river it is mountainous, rocky, and dangerous to ſeamen.

600 The late deſcriptions of the ſhore of the *Penſchinska* ſea, from the *Leſnaya* to the *Penſchina* and to the *Ochotska*, are more particular than the former: for in the year 1741 a high road was eſtabliſhed to *Kamtſchatka* with poſt-houſes at proper ſtations; yet, with regard to the diſtances of places, they are not much more accurate; ſince there were no aſtronomical obſervations

1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

Having deſcribed all the coaſt and principal rivers on the continent, we ſhall now proceed to deſcribe the principal roads through this country.

CHAP. II.

Of the ROADS *in* KAMTSCHATKA.

FROM the *Bolſcheretskoi* to the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort are three principal roads: the firſt, along the *Penſchinſky* ſea; the ſecond, by the Eaſtern Sea; and the third, by the *Biſtroy*.

By the firſt they go up the river *Oblukomina* to the ridge *Oblukominſkoy*, and over the ridge to the river *Kreerganick*, along which almoſt to the river *Kamtſchatka*, and from thence up the river to the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort.

By the ſecond they go from the *Bolſcheretskoi* up the Great River to the *Nachikin* fort, and croſs a ſmall ridge to the river *Awatſcha*, to the haven of *Petropaulauſkay*, or of *Peter* and *Paul*; and from thence along the coaſt of the Eaſtern Sea north to the river *Shupanova*, and up that river to its head; from whence over the ridge to the river *Powetcha*, and down the mouth of that river, which is over-againſt the upper fort.

The third road lies from the *Bolſcheretskoi* up the Great River to the *Opachin* fort; from thence through plains to the Rapid River, up to its head; and thence, down the river *Kamtſchatka*, to the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort.

They travel the two firſt roads chiefly in winter; the third, on foot in ſummer. The firſt and the laſt roads are meaſured, but the ſecond is only meaſured half way; and the particular diſtances are here adjoined.

Firſt

l: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

491 From the river *Nalacheva* they in ſix days arrive at the upper fort.

Third road from the *Bolſcheretskoi* fort, by the Rapid River.

	verſts	fathoms
From the *Bolſcheretskoi* fort, up along the Great River, to the *Opachin* ſmall fort ——	44	0
From thence to the upper ford ——	33	0
From thence to the ſettlement of *Abanichevo*	22	0
From thence to the ſettlement of *Ganaline*	33	0
From thence to the head of the *Kamtſchatka*	41	0
From thence to the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort	69	0
In all from the *Bolſcheretskoi* to the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort —— ——	242	0

485 In all the places expreſſed in the tables the travellers take up lodgings at night, except where the diſtance is only five or ſix verſts. Notwithſtanding the great diſtance between the *Obluko-minſkoy* and the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort, in good weather they travel it in three days, lying two nights in deſert places.

487 491 There are other roads from the *Bolſcheretskoi* to the upper fort, both from the *Penſchinſka* ſea and from the Eaſtern; for every river there that falls into either of thoſe ſeas has a paſſage to *Kamtſchatka:* but, as nobody except the *Kamtſchadales*, and ſometimes the Coſſacks, in great neceſſity, travel them, it was not thought material to deſcribe them; nor can one well aſcertain the diſtances by their journeys.

They go from the *Bolſcheretskoi* to the lower *Kamtſchatkoi* fort, either through the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort, or by the coaſt of the Eaſtern Sea. From the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort the way is along the river *Kamtſchatka*, except where the river makes great windings.

1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

485 The chief places on that road where they uſually lodge at night are the ſmall forts of *Opachin*, *Nachiekiek*, and the *Tarein*; the haven of *Peter* and *Paul*, which was formerly called the ſmall fort *Auſtin*; the *Oſtrovenaya* river, *Supanova*, and the *Chazma*; upon all which rivers there are *Kamtſchatkoi* habitations.

487 491 From the *Chazma* to the river *Kamtſchatka* the road lies over deſolate mountains; and they come upon the river juſt by the village *Oboobofſs*, ſeven verſts and a half above the lower *Kamtſchatkoi* fort, lodging but one night in a deſert place.

From the lower *Kamtſchatkoi* fort to the northern parts two roads are made, the one is by the *Elouki*, to its head; and from thence over a ridge to the head of the river *Tygbil*, along which they go quite to the ſea; and from thence, not far off from the ſea, to the rivers *Leſnaya* and *Podkargirnaya*.

In a moderate way of travelling, when there is no hindrance from bad weather, they go from the lower *Kamtſchatkoi* fort to the lower *Tegbilſkoy* ſmall fort, called *Shipin*, in 10 days.

By the ſecond road they may travel in the ſame manner to the river *Karaga* in ten days, whoſe head is near the river *Leſnaya*.

From the upper *Kamtſchatkoi* fort to the *Tegbil* the common road is by the river *Elouki*: firſt, over the ridge to *Oblukominſkoy* fort, and from thence north by the *Penſchinsky* ſea; and another road is by the river *Kreſtovaya* to the *Harbooſova*.

By the firſt road they may reach *Tegbil* in 10 days; but they very often lodge the tenth night on the road, not ſo much on account of the diſtance as the badneſs of the roads, and the very mountainous places over the *Utkolotskoy* cape. The ſecond road requires 11 or 12 days.

The paſſage along the *Elouki* to the *Tegbil* is the longeſt of all, for that requires above 14 days' journey.

From the *Bolſcheretskoi* fort ſouthward to the *Kurilskaya Lopatka* the uſual paſſage is nine days. The diſtance from the *Bolſcheretskoi*

1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

491 487 *Bolſcheretskoi* fort to the *Kurilskaya Lopatka* is 210 verſts 300 fathoms, which ſpace may be eaſily travelled, even in four days; but the Coſſacks of thoſe places have a cuſtom of ſtopping at any ſmall fort, under pretence of ſome buſineſs there, though their moſt probable motive is to refreſh their dogs. At a middling rate I have travelled in three days from the *Kamtſchatkoi* to the *Bolſcheretskoi*, which is near 150 verſts.

	verſts	fathoms
From the *Bolſcheretskoi* fort to the mouth of the Great River — — —	33	0
From the mouth, along the ſea-ſhore, to the river *Opala* —— ——	85	0
From thence to the *Koſhubochiek* —	18	0
From thence to the *Yavina* ——	15	0
From thence to the river *Ozernaya* —	15	0
From thence to the *Kambalina* —	36	300
From thence to the *Lopatka* —	27	0
In all from the *Bolſcheretskoi* to the *Kurilskaya Lopatka* —— ——	210	300

CHAP. III.

Of the KURILSKI ISLANDS.

103 131 UNDER the name of *Kurilski* iſlands are underſtood all thoſe iſlands which extend from the *Kurilskaya Lopatka*, or the ſouthern end of *Kamtſchatka*, in a row ſouth-weſt quite to *Japan*. They derive their names from the inhabitants of thoſe iſlands which lie neareſt to *Kamtſchatka*, who are called by

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

492 convenient in this kind of travelling is avoided. A thick layer of bearskin was placed over the saddle-cloth, and effectually prevented sore backs. Our personal gear, enclosed in bags made from the skin of the hair-seal, was easily adjusted, but the photographic apparatus and other breakable objects required more care and time, 133 and it was noon before we were fairly off. We bade adieu to our 487 friends, and passed out through the narrow gap at the back of the village towards a small lake of brackish water which hems it in to the north. Here at one time stood the hospital mentioned in Captain Cook's "Voyages," but no trace of the building now remains. Circumventing the lake, we struck off to the north-west and, before long, the track, which had never been very well marked, became obliterated. Our path led through a rough but picturesque country, dotted here and there with stunted birches, and we steered across it for a certain point in the landscape recognised by our guides. By our side trotted one of the most ornamental members of the expedition, whom I have hitherto neglected to introduce—Verglaski, a magnificent bear-dog belonging to Jacof, of an aspect almost as solemn as his master. Our horses had hitherto gone fairly well, but during a short halt that we made to adjust some of the packs a stampede occurred, and in an instant the scene was changed to one of the wildest confusion. Kicking, plunging, colliding against trees, and dashing wildly in all directions, it was not long before the horses succeeded in disembarrassing themselves of their loads, and the ground presented the appearance of having been recently passed by a beaten army in full retreat. The horseboys, more than half drunk, pursued the fugitives, cursing volubly in Russian and Kamschatdale; while we, to whom these little unpleasantnesses of packhorse travel had not even the merit of novelty, lit our pipes resignedly and proceeded to gather up the fragments. It was a full hour ere we were again *en route*. These incidents, "tedious as a twice-told tale," and trying alike to the temper and the baggage, recurred again and again. We progressed, as it were, by a series of stampedes, and our horseboys became almost as erratic in their locomotion as their charges.

[of Petropavlovsk--Analyst]

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

136 Avatcha River, and forty versts from Petropaulovsky. We passed
137 through the same monotonous forests of birch as before, which, like
487 those of other northern countries, seemed singularly devoid of animal life. An occasional coal tit, which from its note and habits appeared identical with the tame little freebooter of our own gardens, or the tapping of a woodpecker,[1] alone broke the almost death-like stillness which reigned around. We had struck a well-marked trail, and progressed in Indian file, the packhorses (tied in fours, each to the tail of the one in front) leading the way, and relieving the monotony by an occasional breakdown or a stampede.
231 Almost all these ponies are strong and well shaped, but from the ill-treatment they receive at the hands of their masters, have learned to bite, kick, and shy on all occasions, together with other accomplishments of like nature which were somewhat apt to dis-
000 turb our equilibrium. There was but one saddle among us, and the "Kamschatkan Peats," as we named the combination of pillow and pack-saddle which we used as a substitute, though comfortable enough when we ambled along quietly, were apt to become slightly insecure when, as a naval member of our party expressed it, we "made bad weather."

The path between Stari-ostrog and Petropaulovsky appears to be tolerably well-travelled, to judge from the frequency with which we came across the marks of old camping-grounds, but we met with no one on our way. It was afternoon when we reached the river, and crossing a small affluent, found ourselves opposite the village. We had ridden on ahead, and were hailing the natives for canoes in which to cross, when a tremendous clattering in our rear caused us to turn, and we beheld the cook's horse advancing in full stampede, but minus his rider. Beneath his belly a large canteen swung violently from side to side, half-open, and discharging a shower of tin cups, knives, forks, plates, tea and coffee kettles, and other articles of like nature in all directions. We retraced our steps sadly, picking up such articles as we could find, but

[1] *Picus tridactylus*, considered as a distinct species (*P. albidior*) by Dr. Stejneger.

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

435 price, but this animal does not exist in any numbers in the peninsula. The most valuable skin of all is that of the sea-otter (*Enhydra lutris*), which is becoming rarer year by year. A good pelt of this animal will bring even the native hunter as much as a hundred roubles, while in the European market a perfect one has been known to realise £120!

133 137 On the morning of August 22d we came for the first time to a *tûndra* of considerable size. After the gloom of the birch-forest these vast stretches of level ground have a most exhilarating effect. The feeling of oppressive stillness which but an hour or two before seemed to weigh upon us like a nightmare, disappeared as if by magic, and pushing our horses into an easy canter, we pursued our way with a sense of freedom that is rarely or never felt except by those who ride where fancy leads them over the level surface of an uncultivated plain. The melancholy, the *niedergeschlagenheit* of Kamschatka, of which Kittlitz gives such a long description in his account of the country, I confess I never felt: the converse—a purely physical feeling of delight in mere existence—we often experienced, and a good rollicking drinking song and a loose rein seemed a necessity in order to let off our stock of superabundant spirits. Long wastes of almost orange-coloured grass stretched away nearly to the horizon, only broken here and there by a still pool, or flecked by little tufts of snowy cotton-grass. Our 132 487 course—for we were on what a native would doubtless call the "high road" to Narchiki—was marked out by long poles, some fifteen or twenty feet in height, which in winter serve to guide the traveller over the dreary wastes of snow. In the forest another method is adopted. The trees are "blazed" by a vertical slit cut in the bark by the hunter's axe. This gapes with the growth of the tree and forms a conspicuous oval mark, ten or twelve feet above the ground—a height which forcibly impresses upon the mind the depth of the winter snow. Other evidences which told us that the warm sun beneath which we were travelling was an affair of days, not weeks, were close at hand, for the snow lay in thick patches

29:Cochrane T-2 (1821-22)1824 Kamchadal

361 reverend pedlers, for every body here is a mer-
161 chant. I made them happy by a pound of tea, a
133 few pounds of tobacco, and a bottle of spirits. The road was very fine and the weather had much increased in cold, so much so, that the thermometer stood at 25°, which I had never before seen in Kamtchatka above 18°. Thence to Morososhna, thirty miles of a good road. The last named village may be termed large, containing eighteen dwellings and a hundred inhabitants, in the enjoyment of many luxuries, yet without cattle. Thence the road lay along the foot of the mountains, the scenery of which gives a relief to the eye as it is in general uninteresting all the way to Bolcheretzk, except at a few places. Upon the road to Belagolofsk ostrog, thirty-five miles, I got twice upset into the river without the means of drying or changing my clothes, and suffered much, in consequence, in my feet. I had a fine view of the magnificent Ichinskaya Sopka or mountain, which continued visible until I reached Khariuzova forty miles, the road to which is in general good, though there are some parts dangerous in the night time. The ice from the rapidity of the current, frequently sunk under us, but from our velocity of movement no accident happened.

437 At midnight I continued on for Kovranskoy os-
R trog, twenty-two miles. There is here a law oblig-
177 ing the Toions to have a path made within twenty-
.43 four hours after every snow storm. Our chief had failed in his duty in this particular, and conse-

29:Cochrane T-2(1821-22)1824 Kamchadal

487 quently was obliged to go before upon his snow
R shoes; and such was his diligence from fear of re-
177 prehension, that he not only arrived before me, but
.48 arrived in five hours, a very short time to accomplish such a journey upon snow shoes. I found it the most miserable place I had seen for a long period, reminding me of Zashiversk in northern Siberia. The brows of the hills are covered with brush wood, with little other appearance of nature.
133 From hence to Uskolofskoy ostrog are thirty-five
161 miles, which I was obliged to do by walking and al-
361 ternately driving a narte, and cannot say which of the two is the most fatiguing. The diseases prevalent in the place prevented almost any assistance being rendered us. There are no cattle, yet fine meadow lands. Fish and game are abundant. At this place I met with another old shipmate in the person of the brandy contractor, who accompanied me to the next station, Napanas, a village with six dwellings and forty people. The road leading to it is considered dangerous, owing to a large toondra or swampy desert which must be crossed; the dis-
)00 tance is forty miles. We passed the desert in a slight fall of snow, which had not been sufficient to obliterate the marks of the track, else we must have been compelled to halt whenever the snow overtook us. I did not arrive until two o'clock in the morning, having been previously hurled down a snowy declivity of one hundred feet in depth: at the bottom of which, I, guide, dogs and narte all lay huddled together; however vexed I felt inclined to